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PP RUEHWEB

DE RUEHFR #1654 3411558  
ZNR UUUUU ZZH  
P 071558Z DEC 09  
FM AMEMBASSY PARIS  
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 7769  
INFO RUEHGG/UN SECURITY COUNCIL COLLECTIVE  
RUEHNY/AMEMBASSY OSLO 1869  
RUEHBS/USEU BRUSSELS 2761

UNCLAS PARIS 001654

SENSITIVE  
SIPDIS

DEPT FOR TOM WUCHTE IN ISN/CPI

E.O. 12958: N/A  
TAGS: [PREL](#) [PTER](#) [AORC](#) [UNSC](#) [KPAO](#) [FR](#)  
SUBJECT: FRANCE SUPPORTIVE OF VOLUNTARY FUND FOR UNSCR 1540  
COMMITTEE

REF: STATE 122725

¶1. (SBU) During a December 7 meeting, MFA UNSCR 1540 Officer Paul Furia said France is strongly in favor of the U.S. proposal to establish a Voluntary Fund, as detailed in reftel, to provide resources to the UN's 1540 Committee to be used for technical assistance to UN member states in fulfilling the WMD non-proliferation obligations of UNSCR ¶1540. Furia added that the projects to be supported through a Voluntary Fund as suggested in the U.S. paper also correspond with French priorities. He added that France was especially interested in maximizing the effectiveness of country missions and was looking to the upcoming mission to the Democratic Republic of Congo as a test case for the program.

¶2. (SBU) However, despite French support for the establishment of a Voluntary Fund, Furia said current budget constraints would make it difficult for France to make a meaningful contribution. Instead, France was hoping for funds to be made available through the EU. These could come either directly from the Commission, which Furia believes has sufficient funding to meet at least part of the approximately \$10 million required for the projects outlined in the U.S. paper, or through combined member state action through the European Council.  
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